

1 Complete the rules for modals of probability.

can't could ~~might~~ must

- things that are possible *might*
- things we think are certain
- things that are impossible

2 Circle the sentences that match.

- It's definitely not an insect.
A It must be an insect. **B** It can't be an insect.
- Perhaps it's a mole.
A It might be a mole. **B** It must be a mole.
- It's definitely dangerous.
A It could be dangerous. **B** It must be dangerous.
- Maybe it's harmless.
A It could be harmless. **B** It can't be harmless.
- Perhaps they're bats.
A They must be bats. **B** They could be bats.

3 Circle the correct words.

- Alfie:** This animal is long.
Clara: It ¹ might / can't be a snake.
Alfie: It lives under the ground.
Clara: I know! It ² *must* / could be a worm!
Alfie: Yes, you're right.
Clara: OK, my turn. This animal has got wings.
Alfie: It ³ *can't* / could be a bird or an insect.
Clara: No, it's neither of those!
Alfie: Then I suppose it ⁴ *might* / must be a bat.
Clara: Well done!
Alfie: I'm thinking of an animal with fur.
Clara: It ⁵ *must* / might be a deer, a fox or a wolf.
Alfie: It isn't nocturnal.
Clara: OK, so it ⁶ *can't* / must be any of those animals.
⁷ *Perhaps* / *Definitely* it's a donkey?
Alfie: Yes, it is!
Clara: This animal has got six legs.
Alfie: Oh, it ⁸ *can't* / could be so many insects!
Clara: OK. Another clue. It's got colourful wings.
Alfie: Ah, that's easy! It ⁹ *must* / might be a butterfly.

4 Correct the mistake in bold in each sentence.

- It's a very large fish with sharp teeth. It **can't** be a shark. *must*
- It's an insect with wings. **Must** it be a fly?
- These animals are poisonous so they **might** be donkeys.
- It's a really large bird. It **can't** be an eagle or a vulture.
- People think they're insects, but they've got eight legs. They **could** be spiders.

5 Write the correct modals of probability.

The flying fox

Is it a fox? It's called a flying fox, but surely a fox ¹ can't (can't / must) fly. Its face looks a bit like a fox's face, but it definitely ² (must / can't) be another type of animal. It's got wings, but it ³ (can't / might) be a bird. In fact, it's a bat!

The urban fox

People think that there ⁴ (can't / could) be over 10,000 foxes living in London. Foxes generally live under the ground, and in the city they surely ⁵ (might / must) live under trees and bushes, and in the parkland.

6 Rewrite the sentences using the modals in brackets.

- It's possible that it's a frog. (could)
 *It could be a frog.*
- I'm certain it isn't a dangerous animal. (can't)

- I'm sure worms are blind. (must)

- A cat is definitely not a wild animal. (can't)

- Perhaps they're nocturnal animals. (might)

- I'm not sure if it's an insect that stings. (could)

1

- 1 *might could*
- 2 *must*
- 3 *can't*

2

- 1 *It can't be an insect.*
- 2 *It might be a mole.*
- 3 *It must be dangerous.*
- 4 *It could be harmless.*
- 5 *They could be bats.*

3

- 1 *might*
- 2 *must*
- 3 *could*
- 4 *must*
- 5 *might*
- 6 *can't*
- 7 *Perhaps*
- 8 *could*
- 9 *must*

4

- 1 *must*
- 2 *Could*
- 3 *can't*
- 4 *might / could*
- 5 *must*

5

- 1 *can't*
- 2 *must*
- 3 *can't*
- 4 *could*
- 5 *must*

6

- 1 *It could be a frog.*
- 2 *It can't be a dangerous animal.*
- 3 *Worms must be blind.*
- 4 *A cat can't be a wild animal.*
- 5 *They might be nocturnal animals.*
- 6 *It could be an insect that stings.*